

Caloosa Belle



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August 28, 2018

Hendry ditches old, goes with new health insurance provider

By Chris Felker
INI Florida

The Hendry County Board voted unanimously at its regular meeting in Clewiston on Aug. 14 to contract with a new health insurance carrier, which could result in a nearly unheard-of savings to county taxpayers of up to \$86,000, possibly even more, in the first year.

Deputy County Administrator Jennifer Davis, who's been working on the issue alongside a county insurance advisory board with the advice of a private health agency, gave a detailed report to commissioners about the results of their request for proposals on health insurance for county employees.

"The committee came together and ranked proposals that we received. United Healthcare was ranked the number one proposer," she said. Hendry County's current insurer is Public Risk Management of Florida (PRM) and, already anticipating an increase greater than inflation, the board had directed county staff to seek other proposals.

"PRM gave us a renewal, separately. You will see that PRM came in at a 6 percent increase over our current year (cost). And United, after they were ranked the number one firm, our insurance broker, who is here tonight as well as United ... went into a negotiation period with United Healthcare to see if they could get a better rate than even what was proposed," Ms. Davis explained.

She provided the board with an extensive summary of the details, saying United's medical premium overall was 3.16 percent lower than the renewal rate of PRM for medical only, and that its total premium was 2.83 percent lower for all lines, which include vision, dental and life as well as medical, "or an \$86,000-and-some-change savings in premium overall. Again, that includes all premium, for the board (commissioners) and for what the employees pay. These are for base plans; three other, more comprehensive options are available for employees, but they pay the difference for those higher-priced plans," Ms. Davis added.

She also said even more savings were

possible for employees who choose those more comprehensive plans, putting United's premiums for them at 9 percent to 11 percent less than those of other proposers.

After some discussion with commissioners, Ms. Davis then gave the floor to broker Derren Bryan, chief operating officer of the county's agency, Albritton Insurance, to answer any other questions the commissioners had.

Commissioner Karson Turner had a few, and one was, "What was the temperature in the room among the committee; were they on board with this? My goal is not for a one-year reduction to be increased tremendously," he added. Mr. Turner noted that the commission several years previously had set a priority to monitor how employees were using the insurance but said "it's not being done and can't be with an HR department of one."

In response, he was assured that would be an easier task with United Healthcare and learned from Mr. Bryan that Albritton would assist in that function.

Mr. Turner then made a motion to accept the ranking of United Healthcare and authorize the insurance committee, Mr. Bryan and Albritton, and county staff to negotiate and try to get even better rates. Commissioner Michael Swindle enthusiastically seconded.

Mr. Bryan said: "We've engaged them and have been able to lower the numbers down pretty good. I'd like to squeeze even harder at times. Our commitment at Albritton Insurance is just as strong as it has been. We understand how rural ... counties are stressed, especially with staff when it comes to employee benefits. We strive to take the usual commission that an agent brings in ... and we hire someone local and they pay attention to those benefits every single day."

He also characterized United as a strong carrier and said his company has other relationships with that provider. "We know their ability to customize and to build plans based on the data of that community. We feel very strongly that they're good partners as well."

Community Clean-Up planned in North and South LaBelle

By Geoffrey Ionescu
Caloosa Belle

Hendry County will be hosting free Community Clean-Up events in North and South LaBelle over the next month. Residents can drive up to the location and dispose of their waste with assistance from county employees. These clean-up events are held to help the community clean up their yards and homes of unwanted debris and waste. These events help Hendry County residents eliminate the cost of that disposal.

These clean-up events are specifically designed for residents of unincorporated Hendry County. They will not be accepting any commercial waste or any waste from businesses, especially commercial tires. From residents, the county will be accepting tires, yard debris, hazardous waste and more. Furniture, White Goods and TV's can be placed curbside with regular trash pickup, please do not bring those items.

Employees from several Hendry County departments within the Board of

County Commissioners will be present for residents to ask questions or voice any concerns. Some of the participating departments are: Code Enforcement, Emergency Management, Road & Bridge, Waste and Mosquito Control. There will be free food and drinks available along with informational material and resources.

The Community Clean-Up in North LaBelle will take place on August 25 at North State Road 29 and Marion St. from 9-12 p.m. or until bins are full. The South LaBelle clean-up will take place on September 8 at the LaBelle Rodeo Grounds on South State Road 29 from 9-12 p.m. or until bins are full.

For more information regarding the clean-ups, residents are asked to call Hendry County Special Districts at 863-675-5252.

Hendry County related information can be found on the Hendry County website www.hendryfla.net as well as the Hendry County Facebook page www.facebook.com/hendrycounty.



Submitted photo/Nikki Yeager

LaBelle Veterans Park

The Veterans Park committee consists of two officers from each organization - American Legion: Bill Davis, Steve Mockler; VFW: Marvin Ruble, Chuck Wilhelm and the DAV: Bob Kirkwood and Dave Johnson. The committee along with Darrell Harris and Bill Maddox met with Ramiro Rodriguez, Director of the Hendry-LaBelle Recreation Department to make plans for upgrading the park and locating the Veterans Wall along with the 'Liberty Bell'

that is being donated by KC Lynn honoring her husband, Richard Lynn. Work should begin mid-September, so be watching for changes to be taking place in time for a fresh new look for Veterans Day, November 11, 2018. To make donations or for application for the next engraving for the wall, contact Bill Davis, Commander of the American Legion 863-234-1768. To offer services and supplies for the upgrades, contact Ramiro at 863-673-4404.



Hendry County School Board candidates go live

By Lisa Walker

Special to the Caloosa Belle

The Clewiston Chamber of Commerce hosted a Facebook live stream event Aug. 7 where candidates running for Hendry County School Board seats contended by answering a series of questions.

Serving as moderator was the chamber's executive director, Hillary Hyslope. For disclosure, "The candidates were all given our questions ahead of time so that they would be able to really think them through and answer to the best of their ability," stated the chamber in a Facebook comment. However, the forum was all the more challenging and horn-locking between the opposing School Board candidates.

Kicking off the event was School Board District 4 incumbent Stephanie Schneider Busin, who is being challenged by Mercedes Perdomo Reese. Following in the second segment was School Board District 5 incumbent Jon Basquin, who's being challenged by Maureen Cervino Quintero. The participating candidates were all asked the following questions:

- "Why do you desire to become a School Board member?"

- "What do you see as the School Board's roles and responsibilities?"

- "How should the board prioritize its goals?"

- "How would you as a board member be accessible to your community?"

- "One of the greatest challenges for the county is teacher recruitment and/or turnover. How do you go about finding highly qualified

teachers, and more importantly, how can the school board better incentivize these qualified teachers to stay and become lifelong members of our community?"

- "On teachers, quality teachers are crucial to the continued betterment of the Hendry County school system. How can a board member best support our current teaching staff?"

- "In your opinion, what is the biggest challenge facing our education system and school board, and how you plan to overcome it?"

In a phone interview with the chamber's Director Hyslope, she said: "We are pleased with the turnout and responses to the Facebook live stream event with Hendry County School Board candidates. We are excited to host more events like this in the future so our community can make educated votes in this upcoming election."

Over 2,000 viewers have watched the event, and it is still available to watch on the Clewiston Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page, dated Aug. 7.

Clewiston's chamber plans to host another Facebook live event like this for the Hendry County property appraiser race on Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. Another upcoming event, in which the Clewiston City Commission races' contenders will participate in an in-person forum at the John Boy Auditorium, will also be live-streamed on Oct. 18 at 6 p.m.

Remember to cast your vote on election day, Aug. 28, or vote early this week.



Special to The Clewiston News/Lisa Walker

TOP: Hendry County School Board District 4 incumbent Stephanie Schneider Busin (left) and challenger Mercedes Perdomo Reese.

BOTTOM: Hendry County School Board District 5 incumbent Jon Basquin (left) is being challenged by Maureen Cervino Quintero.

LaBelle Museum monthly programs resume in September

Joe Thomas, president of LaBelle Heritage Museum, announced the museum's 2018/2019 program meetings will resume at 7 o'clock on Wednesday, September 5, at LaBelle's Dallas B. Townsend Agricultural Center, 1085 Pratt Boulevard, with a program by Annette Snapp, Ph. D., currently Charlotte County's Historian at the Charlotte County Historical Center in Port Charlotte and formerly Operations Program Manager at Ah-Tah-Thi: A Place for Learning at Big Cypress Seminole Reservation in Southeast Hendry County, History and Anthropology Professor at FGCU, and Southwest Regional Director of FPAN [Florida Public Archaeology Network].

Dr. Snapp, no stranger to LaBelle and LHM, will discuss the importance in discovering, accurately describing, and preserving as best as possible our area's archaeological sites, how our museums and preservationists can work together as well as working with individual municipalities and county government with the possible creation of a Hendry County Historical Commission as a goal.

The doors to the Dallas B. Townsend Agricultural Center will open at 6:30 p.m. and the program is open to the public at no charge. Attendees coming from the North are reminded that the Caloosahatchee River Bridge at LaBelle is experiencing night-



Annette Snapp, Ph. D.

time closures for extensive maintenance and that detours to the bridge at Moore Haven or possibly State Road 31 may be necessary.

LHM's Joe Thomas added the museum's monthly programs are scheduled for the AG Center through December because of the unavoidable delay in the completion of the historic preservation work at LHM's 1912 Poole Store and Family Residence. The date of the programs has also been changed from the first Thursday of the month to the closest Wednesday as the Hendry County 4-H Livestock and Small Animal Clubs have priority on the first Thursday of the month through Fair competition and Livestock Auctions than end in February.



PINK WARRIORS WALK 2018

5K WALK TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LOCAL WOMEN'S BREAST HEALTH

**SATURDAY
20 OCT 2018
SUGAR FESTIVAL FIELD
7:00AM - REGISTRATION
9:00AM - WALK**

**REGISTER TODAY:
WWW.BIDPAL.NET/PWW2018**

Dueling Pianos event to raise cash for HRMC is Sept. 29

Special to the Caloosa Belle

CLEWISTON — The Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation is planning a “Keys to Health” Dueling Pianos event on Saturday, Sept. 29, at 5:30 p.m. at the Oak Grove RV Resort in LaBelle.

The HRMC Foundation invites anyone interested to join its members for a fun-filled evening where their entertainers will compete on the pearly keys in a high-energy, all-request singalong, in which the audience

will be just as much a part of the show as the pianists.

Tickets are \$75 and include heavy hors d’oeuvres; there will be a cash bar. Limited bus transportation will be available from Clewiston to the event.

Tickets may be purchased at www.bidpal.net/duelingpianos 2018, and more information is available by contacting Electa Waddell at 863-983-2735 or emailing ewaddell@hrmc.us.

Information meeting today on farm assistance program

Special to the Caloosa Belle

The Farm Service Agency will have a 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program informational meeting from 2 to 4 p.m. today, Aug. 23, at the Hendry County Extension Office, 1085 Pratt Blvd. in LaBelle. This meeting is for vegetable growers and others. The new 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program provides disaster payments to producers to offset losses from hurricanes and wildfires

during 2017 — particularly losses of crops, trees, bushes and vines. Agricultural producers affected by hurricanes and wildfires in 2017 now may apply for assistance to help recover and rebuild their farming operations. Sign-up began in July and continues through Nov. 16. You must sign up by making an appointment at your local Farm Service Agency office. Contact the Hendry extension office at 863-674-4092 for more information.

Extension of Southeastern U. opening soon in Clewiston

By Chris Felker
INI Florida

A brand-new institution of higher learning has come to Clewiston, courtesy of the people at New Harvest Church, a non-denominational church located just east of the Clewiston city limits.

KingsGate College at New Harvest, 370 Holiday Isle Drive, was established as an extension site of Southeastern University, which is a private, Christian liberal-arts university affiliated with the Assemblies of God and based in Lakeland.

KingsGate at New Harvest provides students — college age, adults and they also offer dual enrollment options for students in the church’s Harvest Academy Christian School, kindergarten through 12th grade — affordable two- and four-year degree programs.

The college was launched in a ceremony Sunday, Aug. 12, at 10 a.m. in the church. Senior Pastor Chuck Pelham welcomed several city officials during their ceremony.

Said Pastor Pelham: “We are excited about the partnership opportunity KingsGate College has as an extension site of Southeastern University. We believe through this opportunity we can help empower people in our region and equip them through higher education to better reach their potential and achieve their dreams.”



Courtesy photo

The launch of KingsGate College at New Harvest Church in Clewiston was announced during a service Sunday morning.

KingsGate College will launch this fall with 22 students, four of whom are dual-enrolled high school students.

Vanessa Roque, a new student who will start this fall at KingsGate College, said, “As a busy mom of two boys, I love the flexibility that KingsGate College offers, as well as the incorporation of the spiritual aspects.”

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON A SPECIAL EXCEPTION

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will hold a public hearing on the following petition on **September 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the petition is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) for final consideration at a public hearing. This hearing will be held on **September 25, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida.

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard at the public hearings with respect to the petition. Oral and written comments will be accepted. A copy of the petition is available for inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 S. Main St., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners’ office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Any questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department, by phone (863-675-5240), email (mjohnson@hendryfla.net), U. S. mail (P.O. Box 2340, LaBelle, FL 33975) or by fax (863- 674-4194).

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at either meeting, please contact Hendry County Planning and Zoning at (863) 675-5240; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail mjohnson@hendryfla.net.

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete que hable español para participar en esta reunión, por favor póngase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.

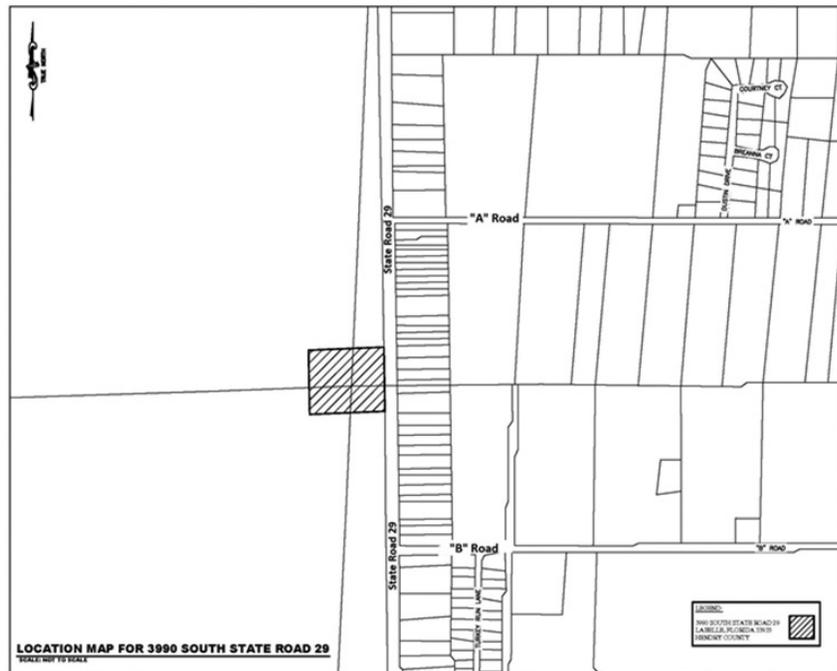
Petition Number: SE18-0001
Applicant: Florida Power and Light, represented by Darryl Kroeze, P.E., USA Engineering Inc.
Resolution Title: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, GRANTING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION TO ALLOW CONSTRUCTION 320-FT SELF-SUPPORT COMMUNICATION TOWER IN A GENERAL AGRICULTURE (A-2) ZONING DISTRICT.
Project size: +/- 6.65 acres
Location: 3990 S SR 29 & S SR 29, LaBelle, FL 33935 (Parcel I.D.s # 1-29-43-29-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-32-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-33-A00-0002.0000; 1-29-43-28-A00-0001.0000)
Request: The applicant is requesting a Special Exception for a construction of 320-foot self-support tower.

Legal description of subject property:

PARENT TRACT

A TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND LYING IN SECTIONS 28, 29, 32 AND 33, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA, WHICH TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

FROM THE WOODEN POST, SAID TO MARK THE CORNER COMMON TO SAID SECTIONS 28, 29, 32 AND 33, RUN WESTERLY ALONG THE LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32 AS MARKED BY SAID POST FOR 299.35 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF LANDS HEREIN DESCRIBED. FROM SAID POINT OF BEGINNING, RUN SOUTH, PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SR NO. 29, FOR 190.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF AN ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT AS DESCRIBED IN O.R. BOOK 4, PAGE 14 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HENDRY COUNTY; THENCE DEFLECT 91°16'40" LEFT AND RUN EASTERLY, PARALLEL WITH SAID LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32 AND ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID TRANSMISSION LINE EASEMENT, TO AN INTERSECTION WITH THE LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 32 AND 33; THENCE CONTINUE EASTERLY PARALLEL WITH A PROLONGATION OF THE SAID LINE BETWEEN SECTIONS 29 AND 32, DEPARTING FROM THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LINE FOR A TOTAL DISTANCE OF 565 FEET FROM THE AFORE SAID CONCRETE MONUMENT, TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF SR NO. 29; THENCE DEFLECT 88°43'20" TO THE LEFT AND RUN NORTHERLY ALONG SAID WESTERLY LINE (PASSING THROUGH A CONCRETE MONUMENT ON SAID RIGHT OF WAY LINE AT 161.10 FEET) FOR 505 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT AT A POINT 117.9 FEET SOUTHERLY FROM U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MONUMENT 41RC 1952 TT; THENCE DEFLECT 91°16'40" LEFT AND RUN WESTERLY FOR 565.0 FEET TO A CONCRETE MONUMENT; THENCE RUN SOUTHERLY PARALLEL WITH SAID WESTERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE FOR 315 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.



Caloosa Belle

To Reach Us

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To Submit News

The Caloosa Belle welcomes submissions from its readers. Opinions, calendar items, story ideas and photographs are welcome. Call (863) 675-2541 to reach our newsroom. The deadline for all news items is 11 a.m. on Monday prior to the following Thursday's publication.
E-Mail: cbnews@newszap.com

To Place a Display Ad

Phone: (863)675-2541
The deadline for all advertising is 4 p.m. on Friday for the following Thursday's publication
E-mail: cbadsales@newszap.com

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Advertising Services: Barbara Calfee
Reporter: Geoffrey Ionescu

Our Purpose...

The Caloosa Belle is published by Independent Newspapers of Florida. Independent is owned by a unique trust that enables this newspaper to pursue a mission of journalistic service to the citizens of the community. Since no dividends are paid, the company is able to thrive on profit margins below industry standards. All after-tax surpluses are reinvested in Independent's mission of journalistic service, commitment to the ideals of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and support of the community's deliberation of public issues.

We Pledge...

- To operate this newspaper as a public trust
- To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- To provide the information citizens need to make their own intelligent decisions about public issues.
- To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- To disclose our own conflicts of interest or potential conflicts to our readers.
- To correct our errors and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- To provide a right to reply to those we write about.
- To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.

Guest Op Ed

Infrastructure to Lay Foundation for Growth

By Commissioner Darrell Harris

I have had the privilege of serving as County Commissioner for District 2 for 17 years. Continuing to create an environment for growth in all areas of the County has always been one of my priorities. I have enjoyed working with the dedicated staff members in Hendry County government. Together we continue to work with the residents of Hendry County to achieve our highest potential. However, there is still room to grow, and we would like nothing more than to fulfill those needs in the most efficient way possible.

Putting our residents first has been, and will always be, my top priority. With our residents as our main focus, we continue to create the highest quality of life possible and achieve growth. One of the ways we can achieve this is by investing in and installing infrastructure - roads, sidewalks, sewer and water lines - is needed to lay the foundation for growth in our county. Having infrastructure in place will enhance the overall quality of life in Hendry County by allowing for more housing development and business attraction.

The Board of County Commissioners approved a project to construct sidewalks along County Road 78 from Crescent Ave. to the existing sidewalk near the intersection of County Road 78 and Old County Road 78 Paid for by FDOT, this project has been completed. We have also approved sidewalks and paving projects for various areas of District 2 and the rest of Hendry County, including Fort Denaud Road.

These sidewalks will complete the alternative transportation right-of-way improvements in these areas. We believe that having sidewalks along these roads is a public safety issue, but sidewalks are so much more. Many people walk, jog or bike along our roadways as a primary source of recreation and exercise. The approved and future paving projects offer residents and visitors safe routes to reach their end destinations. While public safety is a top priority, these projects compliment both safety and recreation - directly improving quality of life experiences for our residents and visitors.

Sidewalks provide greater access to outdoor activities for families to safely ride bikes or walk dogs. Sidewalks are shared spaces that allow for more interaction with our communities. Whether it's a fun run or a quick walk to pick up groceries, our goal is to connect our communities together.

Naturally, the County must prepare to welcome and provide for the expansion of our population, which will also add depth to our tax base.

A look at local records indicates that from October 1, 2017, through July 20, 2018, the County issued permitting for 70 mobile homes, 127 site-built homes and 4 modular homes - a total of 201 new residences. Most of these are in Port LaBelle. In addition, the City of LaBelle issued permits for approximately 15 new homes.

In the area of safety, the County is working to place a firetruck in the North LaBelle area.

Hendry County is preparing for the sale of Airglades Airport which will diversify the local economy, provide job growth and increase the County tax base. Hendry County entered into a public-private partnership for this project as the County is not in the financial position to develop this project on its own without increasing the tax burden to its residents.

The County has been working hard to be ready for the future in many ways. Some of these projects include:

- The LaBelle Airport Terminal is currently under construction, funded 100 percent by FDOT. FDOT and FAA shared funding for its design. Re-marking the runway and associated taxiways - also paid for by FDOT - were completed in January.

- FDOT is footing the total design and construction costs for the Reconstruction of the Threshold Lighting and Runway End Pavement Modification Project at the airport. The design is complete and the Invitation to Bid for construction has been issued.

- The Master Plan update for LaBelle Airport is under way, again with FAA and FDOT funding.

- Design and construction for paving Rodeo Drive from SR 29 to LaBelle Airport is being totally funded by FDOT. Design plans are currently 60 percent complete.

- Design for rehabilitating the existing aircraft tie-down apron at LaBelle Airport is also under way. The County is funding 10 percent for its design, with the FFA covering 90 percent.

- Engineering reports much action on Hendry County roads as well, starting with the long-awaited, FDOT funded Helms Road Extension. The initial two lanes are in and crews are working on the other two.

- Design plans for Forrey Drive are nearing 90 percent completion. Work is expected to begin in September. Again, FDOT is funding the entire design and construction of the project from Cowboy Way to State Road 80.

- Improvement plans for Fort Denaud Road are at 60%

- Two major road projects remain for Hendry County. The four-laning of SR 80 should be complete in about two years and SR 29, from the bridge to the county line, is to be four-laned by FDOT.

- State Road 29 south from the intersection of Cowboy Way is to be four-laned for 5 miles. Three different turn options have been discussed in particular: the Porterfield Oil turn issue has been resolved with ingress and egress at Rodeo Drive; turn lanes for Wilson and Evans Roads are still being discussed.

FDOT's Five-Year Work Program for Hendry County includes:

- Resurface SR 80 from north of Bee Creek to north of Fort Thompson Ave. PD/E and construction 2018/19.

- Resurface Cowboy Way from SR 80 to Bridge St. 2019/20.

- Widen and resurface Fort Denaud Road from SR 80 to Fort Denaud Bridge Way 2018/19.

- Widen and resurface CR 78 from Kirby Thompson Road to Fort Denaud Bridge Way

2018/19.

Of course, not everything is "in progress." Some completed paving projects include:

- Nobles Road
- Alex Blvd.
- Whidden Road
- Ivan Ave,
- Caloosa Estates

County recreation projects include:

- Adding four backstops for four practice fields and water lines for restrooms at the Sports Complex on Forrey Drive

- For Davis-Pratt Field, the County added a 20x30 open pavilion, upgraded backstops and fencing and added new drainage to the entire parking lot

- The County has added fencing around five soccer fields at the Hendry-LaBelle Sports Complex

- Kid Jones Park has been improved with four oak trees and a gazebo

- At Bob Mason Park riverbanks have been cleared to enhance its appearance and use with gazebos, picnic tables and barbecue grills

- The Rodeo Grounds have been improved with new bucking chutes and a concrete slab under the pavilion

Hendry County is participating in the future of energy production with the FPL Hammock Solar Energy, which opened operation March 1, 2018, on 400 acres off Sears Road.

Hendry County has been hosting clean-up events throughout the County over the summer. The next event will be held this Saturday, August 25 in North LaBelle on North State Road 29 at Marion Ave. The final clean-up will take place in South LaBelle on Saturday, September 8 at the LaBelle Rodeo Grounds. Residents are encouraged to bring their yard waste, tires, household hazardous waste and other items they would like to dispose of. This is for residents only, commercial/ business waste will not be accepted.

I look forward to building opportunities for recreational activities throughout our County and increase public safety. I will continue to make people my priority and strive for the potential the County can reach. I believe we should be mindful to reduce the tax burden on our residents, but we must remain committed to offering the highest quality of services to our residents. I believe that we can lay the foundation for continued growth as well as improve and ensure a high quality of life in Hendry County for generations to come.

All the Commissioners of Hendry County have concerns for the entire County. We are all working together to make Hendry County a better place in which to live, work and raise our families.

Please feel free to contact me 24/7 with any concerns or questions at 863-673-5475.

Business Corner

By Geoffrey Ionescu
Caloosa Belle

The Rentz Law Firm, P.L.L.C. just moved into 97 Park Ave.

Meet attorney Kirk Matthew Rentz, II. He just moved his law firm into one of the oldest houses in LaBelle. Matt is dedicated to assisting clients with a wide range of legal matters. His practice focuses on Estate Planning and Administration, Medicaid Planning, Asset Protection and Business Law. Matt was born and raised in Southwest Florida and is a member of the Florida Bar. "I'm from LaBelle," Matt explains, "I went to Auburn University, but the only reason I went out of State is because I always knew I wanted to come back and live here for the rest of my life."

The Rentz Law Firm, P.L.L.C. is located at 97 Park Avenue in Downtown LaBelle. It is one of the oldest houses in LaBelle and has been home to a lawn mower dealership, massage salon and the Riverside Real Estate office for a long time.

"D.A. 'Doc' Mitchell actually built this house in 1912 and used it as his drug store,"

Matt explains, "at the time the store was located on Bridge Street next to Harold P. Curtis Honey Co. In 1925, when the Florida Legislature chartered the City of LaBelle, which replaced the Town of LaBelle, Doc Mitchell was named the first Mayor of LaBelle. At some point they moved the whole house to right here on 97 Park Avenue. Right now, I'm still renovating; I tell people I'm either doing office work or legal work, and by office work I mean renovating inside and working on the yard outside. I love this house, I have already started putting pictures up to show the history of LaBelle and my family," Matt says.

"I'm an attorney by day and a football coach by night," Matt goes on, "I'm an assistant coach of the littlest kids of the LaBelle Longhorns, which is a lot of fun. The helmets are usually too heavy for the kids, so sometimes when they fall down they can't get up and they help each other out, which is really cute."

For more information or to make an appointment with Matt visit www.rentzlawfirm.com.



Caloosa Belle/Geoffrey Ionescu

Matt Rentz with his new sign in front of 97 Park Ave.

Barron Library Happenings

QUILTING CLUB – Anyone interested in learning to quilt, or if you would just enjoy the company of others while working on individual projects, join this fun group on Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30.

CHESS CLUB – Offering a time for experienced players to compete, and also an opportunity to learn how to play, every Monday evening from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME – every Tuesday morning at 10:45. Bring your little ones for fun stories and projects.

BARRON BOOK CLUB – Book selection for September 10, is By Invitation Only,

by Dorothea Benton Frank. The club meets at the library the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm. If you enjoy reading and discussing your thoughts, you may be perfect for the Barron Book Club. Everyone is welcome!

KOMPUTERS for KIDS – the library is still working with Computers for Kids Community Outreach of Southwest Florida, who make rebuilt computers available to families at an affordable price. Special offers available during this back-to-school season. Check them out at Barron Library.

HENDRY COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that the Local Planning Agency of Hendry County (LPA) will conduct a public hearing on a proposed text amendment to the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan and conduct a preliminary review of the related SR 82 Mixed-Use District Detailed Specific Area Plan (DSAP). The hearing will take place on **September 12, 2018, at 6:00 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, Florida. The LPA will determine if the amendment is consistent with the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan.

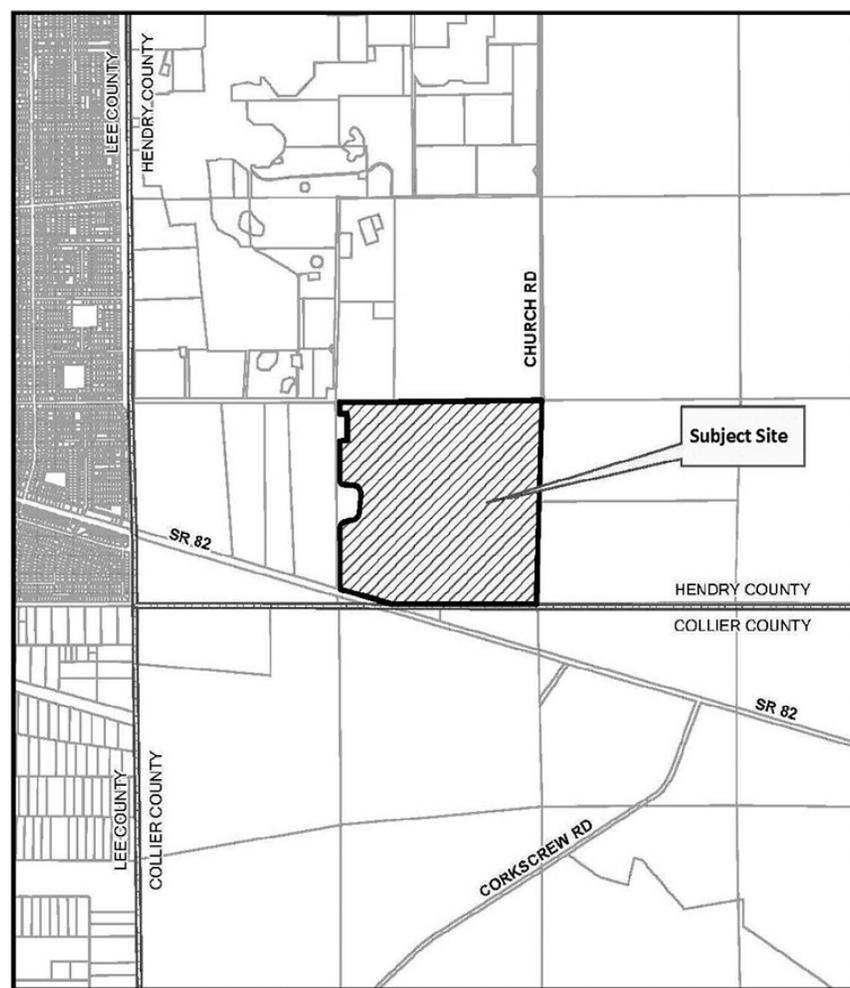
The recommendations of the LPA will be made to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC). The BCC will consider whether or not it wishes to transmit the amendment to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. This hearing will be held on **September 25, 2018, at 5:05 p.m.**, at the Hendry County Courthouse, Commission Chambers, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, Florida.

Petition Number: CPA18-0005

Applicant: Stephane Gardinier o/b/o Gardinier Florida Citrus Inc. & HCGM, LLC, represented by Pavese Law Firm c/o Katherine English, Esq. and Waldrop Engineering c/o Alexis V. Crespo, AICP

Request: The applicant is requesting to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan relating to the Future Land Use Element, specifically Objective 2.1, SR 82 Mixed-Use District, Objective 2.7, Development Districts for the Southwest Hendry County Sector Plan, Objective 2.9, DSAP Requirements for SR 82 Mixed-Use District, Objective 2.10, Residential/Non-Residential Development Ratio, and Objective 2.13, Water and Wastewater, and certain supportive Policies related to the aforementioned Objectives.

The DSAP RZ18-0005 will also be preliminarily reviewed with CPA18-0005, and includes the property shown below.



This transmittal hearing is the first step in a two step public hearing process to amend the Hendry County Comprehensive Plan. A second hearing will follow the Department of Economic Opportunity's review of the application.

All interested parties are invited to appear and be heard. Oral and written comments will be accepted. A copy of the petition and ordinance are available for inspection at the Hendry County Planning and Zoning Department, 640 S. Main St., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at the Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners' office, 25 E. Hickpochee Ave., LaBelle, FL between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Any questions pertaining to this matter should be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department by phone (863-675-5240), email (mjohnson@hendryfla.net), U.S. mail (P.O. Box 2340, LaBelle, FL 33975) or by fax (863-674-4194).

If you have a disability that will require special assistance or accommodation for your attendance at either meeting, please contact Hendry County Planning and Zoning at (863) 675-5240; Hearing Impaired: Florida Relay 7-1-1; or e-mail mjohnson@hendryfla.net.

Hendry County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete que hable español para participar en esta reunión, por favor póngase en contacto con Myra Johnson al (863) 675-5240.

Patricia Bosley Inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame

Special to the Caloosa Belle

Patricia Ann Bosley began her 4-H experiences in 1978 in a small community between Clewiston and LaBelle. Patricia enrolled her three older children in the local 4-H club, but soon the volunteer leader moved away. Instead of disbanding the club, Patricia became the new volunteer leader for the Pioneer Arts and Crafts 4-H Club. Presently, Patricia is the 4-H leader of the Pioneer Sewing 4-H Club and the Pioneer Small Animal 4-H Club. Previously, she served as the Pioneer Dairy Goat 4-H Club leader.

In addition to being active in the Hendry County 4-H Club Program, Mrs. Bosley is strongly involved in her community. For 16 years she has held the position of secretary for the Pioneer Neighborhood Watch Or-

ganization. Moreover, Patricia has been an outstanding 4-H club leader for 41 years in Hendry County. She has helped numerous youth in the Pioneer Community to overcome many barriers to help them achieve their goals in 4-H and in life. Learning to work with a diverse group of youth, Patricia has learned to adapt to difficult situations and circumstances while maintaining balance and conformity within the Hendry County 4-H Club Program.

Patricia was awarded the Hendry County 4-H Outstanding Leader Award in 1980, 1987 and 1997. She was also awarded FAE-4HA Friend of 4-H in 2001 and captured the National 4-H Council Lifetime Volunteer Award in 2003. Congratulations on being inducted in the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame on August 1, 2018.



Submitted photo

Pictured left to right: Barbara Bosley Parmer, Fred Bosley, Patricia Bosley, Nancy Bosley Long and Cindy Bosley Acree.

Community Briefs

Cattlemen's Beef Cook-Off Aug. 25

The Hendry County Cattlemen's Association Beef Tailgate Cook-Off is coming up, and the group is seeking participants both to cook and judge the entries. Those interested are asked to let them know by registering to their event on Facebook or by email. The Beef Tailgate Cookoff is meant to help kick off college football season with the cookoff, a Tailgate Themed Silent Auction and an All About Beef Talk. Participants are asked to dress in their favorite team's garb. The event will take place from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 25, with the Cookoff Kickoff at noon, the auction from 12:30 to 1:15, the All About Beef Talk at 1:20 and the Scoreboard Review at 2 p.m. Because of a very generous donation the association just received, the entry fee has been discounted to \$25 (it was \$45), and that covers a pair of cooks and includes the 2019 Cattlemen's local dues. There is a \$10 fee to be a judge for both categories, which are Hendry County Cattlemen's Left-over Ribeye, and Ground Beef, sponsored by Winn Dixie in LaBelle. The venue is the Dunwoody Lodge, 1909 Flaghole Road,

Clewiston. Email ktbeckwhid@gmail.com for more information or to register.

MOPS Resumes

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) will begin their regular meetings with separate childcare on Friday, September 7 at First Christian Church at 9 am. Meetings are held on the first and third Friday of the month from September through May from 9 am-11:30 am and childcare is provided at no cost. Expectant mothers and mothers with children from birth to age six are invited to join us for coffee, coloring, and conversation. Motherhood is hard, and we believe mother better when we mother together. MOPS is a place to find support and form sincere friendships. It is a place where moms can relax and find out they are not alone on this wonderful journey of motherhood. Moms will find themselves saying, "Me too." First Christian Church is located at 138 Ford Ave. LaBelle, FL. For more information contact Megan Narehood at (239) 206-9881 or email mopsoflabelle@gmail.com. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/MOPSoFLaBelle](https://www.facebook.com/MOPSoFLaBelle).

Community Briefs

Happenings at the LaBelle Moose Lodge

The LaBelle Moose Lodge at 230 Jaycee Lions Drive will have: (863) 675-6255

Tuesday and Thursdays-Wings and appetizers 5-7 p.m.

Friday and Saturdays-Dinner served 5-7 p.m.

KARAOKE every Friday and Saturday @ 6:30 p.m.

and Sundays at 4:00 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Live Band and Food Saturday, Sept. 1 "Walker Experience" 7-10 p.m.

Church Briefs

Youth Group

First Christian Church, located at the corner of Lee and Ford Streets, would like to invite all children ages 5 - 18 to our Wednesday Night Youth Group. The basketball hoops are warmed up and games are ready to entertain, excite, and promote Christian fellowship. The evening also includes indoor games, a time of music, skit practice and more. This is a great summer activity that will carry on through the year. If you'd like more information, please contact Cindy or Dave Alexander at 863-673-7567 or 239-340-1575. Hope to see you here!

Gran Campaña

Garden of Prayer

LaBelle Community SDA Ministries extends our 11 a.m. Sabbath morning Pastoral Garden of Prayer to anyone and everyone whose mind is heavily burdened. You know how heavy your situation is. James 5:16 reminds us to pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous man has great power and wonderful results. You can join our prayer list of over 100 by sending your family's name to P.O. Box 1885 LaBelle, FL 33975.

Pastor Rupert A. Balfour, PhD

La Leche League

The La Leche League will meet the second Thursday every month from 5-7 p.m. at Barron Library, 461 N Main Street, LaBelle. At La Leche League Meetings we provide breastfeeding education and support. You can look, listen and ask questions. Some parents help each other and find friends. Come when you can and leave when you need to. You are always welcome! The League will meet on the following dates in 2018: Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8 and Dec. 13. For more info call Maria at 863-612-6264 or email too Maria.LLHendryCounty@gmail.com.

NOTICE OF MEETING 2018 HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD

PLEASE BE ADVISED that pursuant to Chapter 194, Florida Statutes, the HENDRY COUNTY VALUE ADJUSTMENT BOARD (VAB) will convene its Organizational Meeting on, **Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Commission Chambers at the Hendry County Courthouse, 25 East Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida, for the purpose of considering matters pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statutes, Chapter 194 and other items as may be appropriate or timely. Petitions, complaints and appeals filed with the VAB will be referred to hearings conducted by Special Magistrates at the Hendry County Courthouse; or at other designated locations as needed.

This meeting is open to the public, and interested citizens are invited to attend. The Board will not be considering Special Magistrate recommendations at this meeting.

Anyone who appeals a decision made by the VAB will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

The VAB may discuss other related issues in addition to the above matters at the suggestion or request of the Chairman or members prior to or during the meeting.

Barbara S. Butler, Clerk,
Hendry County
Value Adjustment Board

I am Mercedes Perdomo Reese and I'm a candidate for Hendry County School Board District 4.

"Vote for change and new representation"

"A positive voice to represent you on the school board"

Vote for that change at the
Primary Election on August 28th

Paid Pol. Ad. Paid for and approved by
Mercedes Perdomo Reese for
Hendry County School Board District 4



Dr. Darryl Damon's Office welcomes new dentist Matthew Conley

By **Geoffrey Ionescu**
Caloosa Belle

Dr. Darryl E. Damon's Office welcomes a new DMD dentist Matthew Conley:

"I grew up in LaBelle so I'm very excited to practice dentistry here," Matthew explains. "I graduated from LaBelle High School, they have a program that if you graduate there, you get two years of FSW education. With that I got a general degree in business. It has always been a lifelong dream to become a dentist so after I got my business degree I went to Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) where I got my DMD degree," Matthew says. "I al-

ways wanted to practice dentistry here in LaBelle because I'm from here and I know a lot of people in the community."

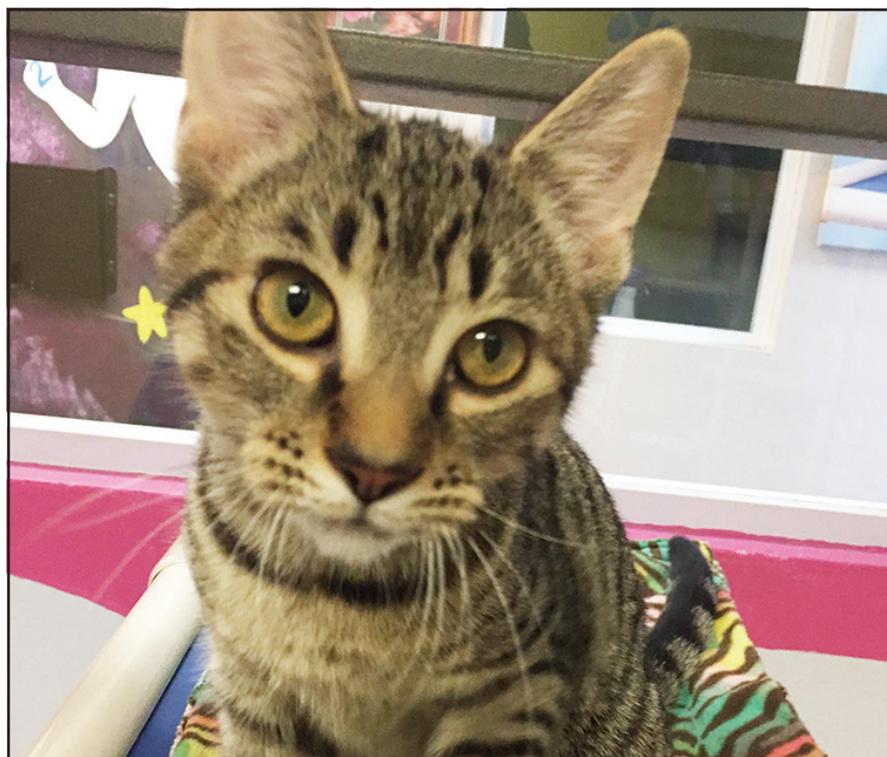
"LECOM is making a special effort to train their dentists in a broad spectrum," Dr. Damon continues. "Matthew brings all aspects of general dentistry to our practice, so our patients don't have to go to Fort Myers for specialized care. We welcome Dr. Conley to the practice and in so doing are able to double our office hours to better serve our community."

Darryl E. Damon, DMD is open from Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Matthew Conley (left) with Dr. Damon.

Caloosa Belle/Geoffrey Ionescu



Submitted photo

Pet of the Week

Meet Lewis! He's a four month old domestic short hair neutered male kitty! He loves to play and is just adorable! Three of his roommates just got adopted and he's ready for his furever family, too! Please consider adding Lewis to your family. Come meet Lewis at the Caloosa Humane Society, 1200 Pratt Blvd, LaBelle, FL 33935, or check him out on our website Caloosahumane-society.org.

Submitted photo/Trenton Muntz

Recently at the Rotary

On Tuesday, August 14, the Rotary Club of LaBelle heard from Liz Fields from Rotary Camp. Ms. Fields spoke to the Club about the services and functions of Rotary Camp. Rotary Camp Florida is a special needs camp near Brandon, Florida that supports all ages and can provide services to those with special needs. The Club also welcomed their newest member, Mrs. Jessica Jones."

TOP: Liz Fields with LaBelle Rotary President Fred Kobie.

BOTTOM: Holly Kobie, New Rotarian Jessica Jones, and LaBelle Rotary President Fred Kobie.



HENDRY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

"Where It's All About Getting Better"

Stephen Purvis, D.O. Orthopedic Practice

The offices of Stephen Purvis, D.O. Orthopedic Surgeon, located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue in Clewiston and 450 South Main Street in Labelle will be closing effective August 31, 2018.

For any immediate questions, call 863-902-3093. Copies of patient medical records may be picked up at the orthopedic office located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue, Clewiston, Florida.

Please contact your Primary Care Provider for assistance in locating a physician to continue any ongoing treatment.

LaBelle High Schools Fall Sports Schedule

2018 LHS Varsity Football Schedule

• 8/17/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Away	Golden Gate - Pre-Season Classic
• 8/24/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Away	SWFL Christian
• 8/31/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Home	Evangelical Christian
• 9/7/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:30PM	Away	Clewiston
• 9/14/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Away	Oasis
• 9/21/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Home	Bishop Verot
• 9/28/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Home	St. John Neumann
• 10/12/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Home	Lake Placid
• 10/19/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Away	East Lee County
• 10/26/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Home	Community School
• 11/2/2018	Friday	Non-District
07:00PM	Away	Moore Haven

2018 JV Football Schedule

• 8/23/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Away
Barron Collier			
• 8/30/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Away
Lake Placid			
• 9/13/2018	Thursday	7:00 PM	Away
Clewiston			
• 9/20/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Away
Bishop Verot- Freshman Game			
• 9/27/2018	Thursday	7:00 PM	Home
Clewiston			
• 10/4/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Home
Lake Placid			
• 10/25/2018	Thursday	6:00 PM	Home
East Lee County			

2018 Girls Golf

• 8/23/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Riverdale			
• 8/29/2018	Wednesday	3:30 PM	
Away Clewiston			
• 8/30/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Lehigh			
• 9/6/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Southwest Florida Christian			
• 9/11/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Home
Southwest Florida Christian			
• 9/18/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Home
Lake Placid			
• 9/20/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Clewiston			
• 9/25/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Home
Moore Haven			
• 10/2/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Away
Lake Placid			
• 10/4/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Home
Moore Haven			
• 10/15/2018	Monday	8:30 AM	Away
Cape Coral, Cypress Lake, Dunbar, Ida Baker, Island Coast, Lehigh, Mariner, North Fort Myers - 2A-20 Girls Golf District			
• 10/15/2018	Monday	8:00 PM	Away
TBA - Districts			TBA

LaBelle Volleyball 2018

• 8/14	Preseason	@ Riverdale v. Riverdale	TBA
• 8/16	Preseason	@ Riverdale v. NFM	TBA
• 8/23	North Ft. Myers		5:30/7
• 8/30	@ Oasis		6/7:00

• 8/31	Canterbury		5/6:00
• 9/5	@N. Ft. Myers (Varsity Only)		6:00
• 9/6	CSN		6/7:00
• 9/13	Clewiston		6/7:00
• 9/14-15	Winter Park Showcase (Varsity Only)	TBA	
• 9/18	Verot		6/7:00
• 9/20	Charlotte		6/7:00
• 9/22	@ Riverdale Tournament (JV Only)	TBA	
• 9/24	@ Riverdale		6/7:00
• 9/27	@ S.J. Newmann		6/7:00
• 10/2	FBA Naples		6/7:00
• 10/4	@ Gateway		6/7:00
• 10/5	@ Canterbury		5/6:00
• 10/6	@ Charlotte	Tourney (Varsity Only)	TBA
• 10/8	@ Clewiston		6/7:00
• 10/9	@CSN		6/7:00
• 10/11	Gateway		6/7:00
• 10/15-18	Districts @ Gateway		TBA
• 10/24	Regional Quarterfinals		TBA
• 10/30	Regional Semifinals		TBA
• 11/6	Regional Finals		TBA
• 11/10	FHSAA State Semifinals		TBA
• 10/29	Regional Finals		TBA
• 11/5	FHSAA Semifinals		TBA
• 11/11-12	FHSAA Finals		TBA

2018 Boys Golf

• 8/16/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Clewiston - Pre-Season			
• 8/21/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Home
Moore Haven			
• 8/23/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Riverdale			
• 8/28/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Away
Southwest Florida Christian			
• 8/29/2018	Wednesday	3:30 PM	
Away Clewiston			
• 8/30/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Lehigh			
• 9/6/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Clewiston, SWFL Christian			
• 9/11/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Away
Ida Baker, Lehigh			
• 9/18/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Away
Lake Placid			
• 9/20/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Home
Clewiston			
• 9/25/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Home
Moore Haven			
• 10/2/2018	Tuesday	3:30 PM	Away
Lake Placid			
• 10/4/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Home
Moore Haven			
• 10/11/2018	Thursday	3:30 PM	Away
Clewiston, Moore Haven, Afatchee - Hendry/Glades Championship			
• 10/15/2018	Monday	8:00 PM	Home
TBA - District Tournament			

2018 Cross Country

• 8/25/2018	Saturday	7:30 AM	Away
Lehigh - Lehigh Lightning Invite			
• 9/8/2018	Saturday	7:30 AM	Away
Fort Myers - Fort Myers Invite			
• 9/15/2018	Saturday	8:15 AM	Away
Barron Collier, Bishop Verot, Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Charlotte, Everglades City, Golden Gate, Gulf Coast, Ida Baker, Island Coast, Lehigh, Lemon Bay, Mariner, North Fort Myers, Oasis, Seacrest Country Day, Village School - 29th Annual Triton XC Inv			
• 9/22/2018	Saturday	7:30 PM	Away
North Port			

• 9/28/2018	Friday	4:00 PM
Away	TBA - Flrun-	ners.com
• 10/13/2018	Saturday	7:30 AM
Away	Lely - Lely	Invitational
• 10/20/2018	Saturday	8:00 AM
Home	TBA - Caloo-	sa Chase 5k Run



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- Perfect for first time homebuyer or as an investment. 4/2 home in Clewiston. Needs some TLC. **\$78,000.**
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RECIPE OF THE WEEK SUBMITTED BY SOUTHERN HERITAGE REAL ESTATE

Creamy Garlic Penne Pasta with Chicken Ingredients

- 1 box penne pasta, cooked to al dente and set aside
- 2 to 3 Tbslp olive oil
- 2 good sized, boneless, skinless chicken breast, sliced into thin slices (1/4" to 1/2")
- 5-6 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 Tbslp all-purpose flour
- 3 Tbslp butter
- 2 cups half n half
- 1 cup chicken broth

- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1 pkg. grated Parmesan cheese, divided (6 to 8 oz.)
- Optional, fresh chopped parsley
- Salt and pepper

Preparation:

In a large deep skillet, heat olive oil. Add chicken and season with salt and pepper. Cook until chicken is no longer pink, about 5 minutes. Transfer to a plate and set aside. Add 3 Tbslp of butter to the skillet and melt, then stir in garlic and cook for 1 minutes. Stir in

flour and Italian seasoning and cook for about a minute or until golden. Whisk in half n half and chicken broth. And simmer for several minutes until thickened. Remove from heat and stir in half the Parmesan cheese until melted.

Toss the cooked pasta and chicken with the sauce to coat, then stir in the remaining Parmesan cheese and the optional parsley.

This dish is quick and easy to prepare and Delicious! Enjoy!



Riverside

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FAMILY HOME - 2BR/2BA plus den which could be 3rd BR, sunken family room with cabana style roof, eat in kitchen with breakfast bar & all GE Profile appliances, living room & dining room. Call us to find out more about this amazing home. **\$150,000**
HOME - Fall in love with this unique Brick/CBS construction split floor plan which offers over 2,100 square foot of living space. Interior features include a split floor plan with vaulted ceilings, sunken living room, 4+ bedrooms, 2 BA and a 2 car garage, well equipped eat in kitchen, with breakfast bar, pantry, pass thru window, formal dining area and separate den. Three sets of French doors all open to the rear screened lanai perfect for entertaining! new roof in 2017 and much more. **\$239,900**

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sewing/laundry room, and two car garage on the north end of the home. A second master bedroom, full bath, and third bedroom on south end. The kitchen features a breakfast bar and the family room offers built-in bookcases and, a bay window/window seat with views of one of LaBelle's finest oak tree specimens. Top it off with a SCREENED PORCH OVERLOOKING THE OLD RIVER. **\$269,000**

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Community Briefs

American Legion Events

Happy Hour Monday - Friday 11a-6p; Lounge opens 10 a.m. M-Sa; 12 noon on Sunday.

(April through September, Fish Fries are only held the First Friday of each month)

August 25 - Saturday, 11-3 "ChuChu's 'Show the Love Benefit'" includes the Desperado Band, Silent Auction, Dessert Auction, Gun Raffle and Pull Pork Dinner/Baked Beans/ Coleslaw & Brownie - \$8. Proceeds to help with expenses after her sudden stroke. Prayers welcome. The Public Welcome....

September 7 - Friday - 5-7 p.m. Fish Fry with assortment of fish, shrimp, crab-cakes & chicken with cole slaw, baked potato or French fries & roll \$9. Homemade desserts by the American Legion Auxiliary are available \$1/slice to support our Veterans. Karaoke begins at 7 p.m. Dining room is smoke free and Public is Welcome.

"Like" our Facebook page to get all the weekly updates, the newsletters and calendars on our website at www.legionpost130.com American Legion Post 130 Meetings:

(All Members welcome)

September 5 - Wed - 7:30 p.m. American Legion Riders meeting

September 6 - Thurs - 6 p.m. DAV (Disabled American Veterans) meeting

September 12 - Wed - 6 p.m. Sons of the American Legion meeting

September 20 - Thurs - 7 p.m. - American Legion meets

American Legion Auxiliary will not meet during September.

American Legion Post 130 is located at 699 SR80 West, across from the Shell station. For further information call 863-675-8300. Dining room is open to the public and smoke free.

VFW Post 10100

ALL DINNERS FOR AUGUST ARE \$6.00!!

Aug. 24 Fri. Ham Dinner. Serving begins at 5:00 p.m., cost \$6.00.

Aug 25, Sat. Razors Edge is in the House for Karaoke. Music will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Aug. 29 Wed. Sheppard's Pie Dinner.

Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00.

Aug. 31, Fri. Spaghetti Dinner. Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00.

Sept. 1, Sat. Chris and Betty Ann are in the House for Karaoke. Music will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Sept. 8, Sat. Fish Fry Dinner cooked by Shelly with all the fixin's Serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the cost is \$6.00. Music by Razors Edge.

Sept. 14, Fri. Beef Tip & Noodle Dinner serving will begin at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$6.00

Sept. 21, Fri. 2 Sharps Karaoke are in the House. Pot luck Dinner Bring your favorite dish. Music begins at 5:00 p.m.

SUMMER SPECIAL

Every Tues. Free pool table from 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Wear your VFW T-Shirt and get .50 off your drink. Beer and Soda excluded

Free Juke Box on Fri. nights from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Queen of Hearts, drawing is at 7:00 p.m.

Hamburgers Every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Best Hamburgers and fries in town. Grilled to perfection. Have it your

way.

Men's Night, Every Mon. Night 6:00pm to 8:00pm. \$1.00 off exclude Draft and Soda.

Ladies Night, Every Thursday, \$1.00 off, exclude Draft and Soda from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Happy Hour: Mon.-Fri. 11:00am to 1:00pm and 4:00pm to 6:00 p.m.

1st Thursday of every month House Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

1st Thursday of every month Veterans Regular Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

2nd Wednesday of every month The Auxiliary Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Bingo every Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Turkey Shoot 2nd and 4th Sun. of every month at 1:00 p.m.

Hall rental available to the PUBLIC. We are a Smoke Free Dining Room. We are located on Hwy 29 next to the Rodeo Grounds. For further information call 863-675-8008.



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Student with disabilities finds a niche caring for Caloosa Humane Society animals

An emaciated caramel-colored dog is brought to the lobby of the Caloosa Humane Society Shelter, her ribs protruding and her appetite voracious. All eyes are on the rescue dog as she laps up the dish of food prepared to help fill out her large frame.

Outside, an energetic bulldog named "Chubbs" tests the strength of his leash as Kennel Technician Patrick Grant soothes the rescue pup, whose new fit-and-trim figure no longer matches his name.

Executive Director Jennifer Johnson rushes to beat the clock and deliver 10 strays to a Naples adoption center before they close. These are snapshots of a day in the life of animal shelter employees.

The LaBelle "no kill" shelter cares for hundreds of dogs and cats annually and relies on many volunteers to perform some of the less appealing shelter jobs, such as cleaning the kennels and litter boxes. That doesn't bother Grant, who began volunteering at the shelter as part of the Able Trust Florida High School High Tech Program, which is offered at several high schools, including LaBelle High School.

Administered by Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida, the program helps students with disabilities or disadvantages establish career goals.

Grant had an allergic reaction to plastic ear tubes, which caused deafness for two years and delayed his speech development.



Submitted photo
Executive Director of the Caloosa Humane Society Jennifer Johnson and Patrick Grant.

The shelter seemed like a good fit for the teen, who has owned and cared for dogs, cats, birds, fish and hamsters as pets. After graduation, Grant tried working a job as a retail stocker and janitor, but he changed course and applied to work at the shelter because he likes "hanging with the animals."

"He's a model employee," says Shelter Manager Ida Erwin. "I don't know of many kids who don't like animals, but it has to be

the right fit. It's nice to show the students what a job can be and to give them something constructive to do in the community."

Several students enrolled in the program have chosen the shelter, which allows them to volunteer before and after school and during the summer months.

"Education is huge and if we can give these young adults a step up in life to find their passion, we will," Johnson said.

Community Briefs

Relay of Life Needs You

Relay of Life LaBelle needs you! They are looking for teams! Churches, schools, non-profits, businesses, clubs and friends! For more information call Vicki Reynolds, Event Lead at 863-234-2405 or Amanda Dreszer, Community Manager at 239-297-5484. Join them in the Fight against Cancer.

LHS Classes of 1970 - 1979-decade reunion

The reunion will be on Saturday, September 15, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Quart House Restaurant in LaBelle. For more information text or email: Judi Kennington-Korf. msjudikk@aol.com or call her at 239.560.7285. Cindy Howard Miller 863.673.3855. or pianogirl57@gmail.com. Please share this info on social media, call, text or email your classmates and mark your calendar. It's going to be an exciting time!!

Swamp Cabbage Festival Committee Meeting

The Swamp Cabbage Festival will meet the first Monday of each month in preparation for the 2019 Festival. The meetings are open to the public as well as anyone interested in volunteering. Please join us at LaBelle City Hall, 481 W Hickpochee Ave, LaBelle, FL 33935 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call our office at 863-675-2995. Meeting Dates: September 10, October 1, November 5, December 3 and January 7

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